

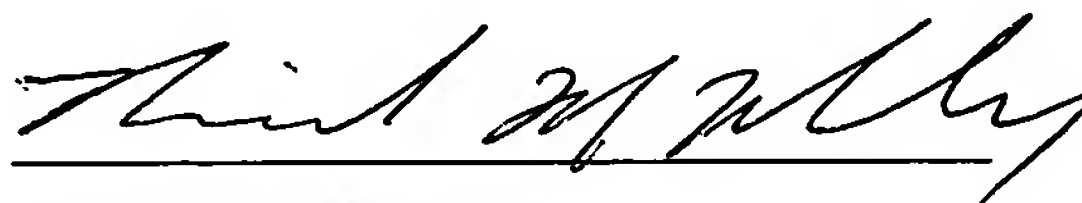
REMARKS:

The present amendment cancels claims 24 to 36, amends claims 1, 3, 5, 7 to 9, 11 to 14, 16 to 22, and adds new claims 37 to 53. Accordingly, claims 1 to 23, and 37 to 53 are now pending in this application.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is found that the present amendment does not place the application in a condition for allowance, applicant's undersigned attorney requests that the examiner initiate a telephone interview to expedite prosecution of the application.

If there are any fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-2326.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard M. Mescher", is written over a horizontal line.

Richard M. Mescher
Reg. No. 38,242

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